

**April District Arts Coordinator
Meeting Minutes
April 24 – Weber District Office
April 26 – Snow College Art Gallery**

Attendees: Joy Brower, Karinda Henry, Richard Marsden, Sheila Mavin, Michael Smith, Michael Hamblin, Jenine Perino, Colleen Nicholes, Suiska Rhodes, Bruce Penland, Todd Billings, Lynna Kendall, JoD'Ann Dance, Dennis Longhurst, Sara Lee Gibb, Jane Nelson, Carol Goodson, Elaine Jones, Barbara Prestwich, Kristy Carter, Estelle Roberg, Carol Johansen, Ferron Holt, Diana Spencer. POPS reps: Gigi Arrington, Jill Barnes, Paula Fowler, Sharon Sobieszczyk, Michael Bahr

Goals for Today's DAC Meeting:

1. Strengthen each other
2. Confirm our purpose
3. Enlighten ourselves in our work

Locally, as opportunities to decrease staffing and classes in the arts arise, don't go away quietly. As a leader, gather your job alike people sometime in the next few weeks. They need to talk, to vent their frustrations. This is important for them to be together in this time of crisis. Help them move quickly to discuss a way to move forward. Suggest at each school that they gather information, prepare their presentation (spokesman and message) and make an appointment to meet as a fine arts department with their principal. It is soooo hard to put something back once it is lost. Remember the arts are an established academic area in the federal legislation. We must do all we can to preserve a quality arts education for our children. Consider the perspectives on accountability in the article ("Accountability: What's Worth Measuring?" Phi Delta Kappan February 2002 issue page 433-436 and

We need to preserve our personal Hope as educators, provide for our Children's development (remember the 7 Wonders), and strengthen our profession ("The Blueberry Story.")

Professional Development Discussion

Group in attendance agreed with the continuing [State Arts Education Mission and revised Goals](#) listed for use in the re-design work this summer. They are:

Mission

Provide leadership and improve opportunity for artistic excellence in dance, music, theatre, and visual arts for all K-12 students and their teachers.

Goal

All Fine Arts Teachers and their Students are:

- a) **Increasing their Ability to communicate and receive understanding and meaning through experiences in dance, music, theatre, and visual art**
- b) **Acquiring Life Skills**
- c) **Enjoying the Learning Journey**

They also agreed with the professional development objectives for the district grants available for next year. They are as follows:

Professional Development Objectives

1. **Initiate effective, reflective professional discussions and instruction on a regular basis (e.g., monthly) at the local level.**

Sessions to focus on improving student work in the Arts K-12 and their acquisition of related Life Skills. The focus may also include improving teacher and administrator attitudes/demeanor, arts instructional programs (departments) and resources, support of those on the endorsement program, development of local leadership, building the school community, and general school environment as related to a nurturing and enjoyable learning journey for all.

2. **Improve teacher knowledge and skills in the artform.**
3. **Improve teacher knowledge and skills in classroom instruction, specifically the effective use of core assessment portfolios (K-12) to:**
 - a. **plan and monitor instruction (teacher self-assessment)**
 - b. **clearly communicate learning targets to students**
 - c. **identify student strengths and weaknesses for designing appropriate lessons (authentic, formative assessment)**
 - d. **enable students to recognize when they have hit the targets (student self-assess)**
 - e. **identify the needed updates for the 3-6 core revision**
4. **Develop and implement arts strategies at inservices in teaching reading, writing, math, and science objectives**
5. **Involve (in addition to classroom teachers and specialists) Specialists from Higher Education, Administrators, and Professional Artists in the planning and delivery of Professional Development in the Arts (K-12).**

Grant discussion

- Base everything on scientifically based research
- Grant can be used to begin professional discussion groups (job alike discussions) that meet five or six times a year. Group to bring before and after student work. Build in an inservice opportunity with stipend for attending.
- Grants can be written about more than one of the objectives on the Staff Development sheet. Any match is helpful in receiving grant. 50/50 match not required.
- Forms to follow

News:

- **Retreat has been postponed to June 16-27, 2003.** An alternative retreat plan, is being designed to make this training still available.)
- **UAAHE** to present these policies (discussed at prior DAC meetings) to Utah State Board on May 3. *(This has since our April DAC meeting been moved to June.)*
 1. Local schools, districts, and charter schools shall develop student achievement and professional development plans and implementation expenditures that address success in every required core area.
 2. In developing and deciding these plans, local schools, districts, and charter schools shall include educators with deep understanding from each core area, including the Fine and Performing Arts, Physical Education, Applied and Educational Technology, Health, Foreign Languages, Social Studies, Science, Language Arts, and Mathematics.
 3. All core areas shall be addressed in defining the purpose, design, and usage of SEP/SEOP's, Report Cards, School Achievement Profiles, and other practices which guide, document, and report the progress and achievement of students.
- Fine Arts Professional Development Redesign taking place this summer to respond to the changing landscape set in motion by state legislature and federal government.
- ETM workshop being done August 5-10. Contact Jane Nelson for more information: 801-943-8677
- **NETWORKING.** "Sense Abilities" the title of the Networking conference at Provo Marriott next December 5-6th. It will be a smaller conference, so sign up early. Group was polled about length of conference. 1-day conference only requested. Concern about specific district teachers not being allowed to attend on Fridays was researched. Blanket restriction concerning substitutes for any day of the week being off limits is not true. The teachers in the affected district must request substitute in advance. *Since this meeting, it was decided that the two-day format will continue, but teachers will be allowed to come for one OR two days. Those on endorsement program have to be there both days.*

District and Association Reports

Many of the district reports included the impact of fine arts jobs due to the current budget situation. Several members indicated that positions where staff retired – no replacement was being sought.

Highlights of positive experiences in the arts include:

- Kodaly program now the elementary music program in Provo.
- Successful Networking conferences held by Granite district – 5 hour training had 98/100 participation and 100% attendance.
- In Weber, ten endorsement candidates completed endorsement work during the year. Egyptian Theatre “Blues in the Schools” a success for Ogden and Weber districts.
- Eight of ten endorsement candidates completed endorsement work during the year in Davis.
- Artist in residence experiences great success in many schools.
- In Ogden, High schools going to a unified academy model – one of the high schools will have a fine art designation. A specific elementary is becoming an arts school. Two original operas are being performed at elementary level.
- Fourteen original operas are being performed in Box Elder schools. More teachers interested in the endorsement program.
- Successful UDEO conference reached more elementary teachers this time.

POPS Announcements at lunch (April 24 meeting)

Utah Symphony’s Youth Guild program, open rehearsals and free concert discussed (May 23). Open rehearsals have more room early in the season (150 ticket available per rehearsal).

New website address: www.utahsymphonyeducation.org

Lesson plan request made, also feed back about UEA concert requested.

District teacher training available.

Theme for 2003 season: “Conversation of Music”

Merger vote between Utah Symphony and Utah Opera will be June 13.

Utah Opera’s inservice “Words, Music, Opera” promoted to group. Increase in number of original operas being done by elementary students congratulated.

Ririe – Woodbury inservice “On the Move” discussed. Reservations beginning now for Jan. 2003 offering.

Step Lively – school residency has 2 school openings (Wasatch Front schools)

Step up program for high school dancers (2 for 1 discount on tickets)

Diane Asay sent message about Arts Talk discussion from last DAC meeting.

SWAP postcards shown to group (they are now available and one set will go to each school). Suggestion to SWAP – no slide projector bulbs are available. Please put items now on slides on a cd rom.